

EVENT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION PLATFORM

CROSS REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is related to and claims priority from the following US patents and patent applications. This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/771,363, filed Nov. 26, 2018, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

[0002] The present invention relates to systems and methods for group event coordination and communication, and more specifically relates to social networking platforms that allow for communication, invitation, and collaboration related to live events and social gatherings.

2. Description of the Prior Art

[0003] It is generally known in the prior art to provide social networking systems that allow users to add contacts to a “friends” list, view contact activity in an activity feed, create event organization pages and send invitations to the events, see lists of public attendees that have responded to events, and communicate with one or more contacts via a message board, forum, or messenger. However, while these networks may provide for communication between event participants, the structure of these networks does not provide for an efficient manner of identifying and connecting accounts that have a likelihood of attending the event together.

[0004] It is further generally known in the prior art to provide ticketing systems that allow users to view, reserve, and purchase events to a ticket. Reserved seats are often held for a set time period before being released back to the public. While some group ticketing systems have been implemented with split-fare features, these systems often do not provide any methods for efficiently coordinating events between group participants, do not generate user behavior analytics, and do not provide relevant social tools and recommendations.

[0005] Prior art patent documents include the following:

[0006] US Publication No. 20130085790 for Organization of Group Attended Ticket Events by inventors Palmer et al., filed Sep. 28, 2012 and published Apr. 4, 2013, is directed to computing systems and methods for organizing group attended ticketed events. A computing system includes one or more memory device or storage components adapted to store user information regarding users of the computing system as well as event information regarding upcoming ticketed events, and one or more processors for conducting activities regarding ticketing for group members. Such activities include displaying information regarding a ticketed event, accepting a user input for inviting invitees to the ticketed event, communicating invitations to the invitees based on the input, receiving invitee response information from the invitees regarding interest in attending the ticketed event, and accepting a purchase request for tickets to the ticketed event from the user, wherein the purchase request is based at least in part on the invitee response information.

[0007] US Publication No. 20070066397 for System and method for event invitation by inventors Nammi et al., filed Sep. 20, 2005 and published Mar. 22, 2007, is directed to a computer-related system and computer-implemented method for coordinating attendance of an event. The method may begin at a host computer associated with a host by selecting an event from a plurality of events. The event associated with a special arrangement, such as a ticket or fee, for a attendance to the event. The, the host may send a notification to at least one computer associated with an invited guest about the reservation, the notification including an invitation to the event. The invited guest may then respond and in response to the invited guest accepting the invitation, a transaction for completing the special arrangement is invoked. For example, the ticket(s) to the event may be purchased.

[0008] US Publication No. 20120221362 for System and method for managing group ticket procurement by inventors Nezer et al., filed Feb. 24, 2011 and published Aug. 30, 2012, is directed to a business method that is a process for coordinating the sale of tickets to groups of people who want to sit together at the event, but pay for their tickets separately. Specifically, the invention is a method of providing group tickets to an event of interest, comprising selecting an event of interest; screening an inventory of seats for the event to create a list of available tickets; choosing from the list, tickets that meet a set of predetermined criteria; and processing the purchase of one or more group tickets by each group member, using information supplied by said group member.

[0009] US Publication No. 20150339596 for Apparatus and Methods of Recommending Multiple Options to a Group of Remote Users and Forming an Agreement by inventors Ioannidis et al., filed Jun. 21, 2013 and published Nov. 26, 2015, is directed to methods and apparatus for a system providing group recommendations, event scheduling, and forming consensus agreements among a group of disparately located users are provided by the present principles. Communication among the disparately located users may be achieved through social media tools, online polling, chatting, and texting. The methods and apparatus allow a user profile to be constructed based on ratings that a user provides to items in a database. The items may comprise such things as restaurants, movie theaters, or other entertainment and group activities. The items may comprise feature vectors including attributes of the individual items. With user profiles constructed, the methods and apparatus may allow prediction of a rating that an individual with a particular user profile may give to a similar item in a database. The system may be used to predict the best choice for a group activity by considering the ratings of all users within a group. Individual ratings may be weighted to give higher or lower priority to some users. The system may also recommend activities based on the users participating in the group, or allow the users to select other activities to be considered. In one exemplary embodiment, the system selects recommendations for the users, comprising elements such as movie title, theater location, seating, and prices. The system sends notifications to the users, collects preferences from the users, and determines a choice based on the collected preferences. The users are notified of the choice and given an opportunity to purchase tickets electronically. If so, they may receive electronic tickets, coupons, promotions, or offers.